

Scott C. Obert-Thorn, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

**P.O Box 1298
99 Broad Street
Hawkinsville, GA 31036
Phone: 478.892.3022
Fax: 478.783.4620
scott@comsouth.net**

June 26, 2017

Kris Monteith
Wireline Competition Bureau Chief
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet*, GN Docket No. 14-28,
Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, *Developing a Unified
Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket No. 01-92**

Dear Ms. Monteith:

Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC" or "Commission") *Open Internet Order*,¹ ComSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("ComSouth" or the "Company"), Study Area Code 220369, hereby notifies the Wireline Competition Bureau ("WCB" or "Bureau") of its intention to cease offering its DSL broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective September 1, 2017. As such, the transmission component will not be provided as a separate regulated service and will only be provided as part of the complete broadband Internet access service that the Company offers to end user customers within its Georgia serving area through the Company.

ComSouth currently provides broadband Internet transmission service as a detariffed Title II offering. The only customer for the Company's broadband Internet transmission service is the Company's nonregulated ISP. Notice to the affiliate ISP was provided this date by interoffice memorandum that the Company will discontinue the offering of broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service effective September 1, 2017.

The Commission made clear in the *Rate-of-Return Connect America Fund Order*,² as well as the *Clarification Order*,³ that a rate-of-return carrier could make the

¹*Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet*, GN Docket No. 14-28, Report and Order on Remand, Declaratory Ruling and Order, 30 FCC Rcd 5601, ¶ 460 and n. 1378 (2015).

²*Connect America Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Report and Order, Order and Order on Reconsideration and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 16-33, ¶ 194, n. 428 (rel. Mar. 30, 2016).

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retail offering described in the foregoing first paragraph, and thus the revenues associated with the broadband Internet access transmission would no longer be subject to the federal universal service assessment pursuant to FCC Form 499-A.

This notice is effective September 1, 2017, unless withdrawn or extended prior to that time.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions,

Sincerely,



Scott C. Obert-Thorn
Chief Financial Officer

cc: Pamela Arluk, Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau Pricing Policy Division
Special Assistant for Telecommunications at the Department of Defense
Georgia Public Service Commission
The Office of the Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor of Georgia

³*Connect America Fund*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Order DA 16-661, ¶ 25 (WCB, rel. June 15, 2016) (citing the *Open Internet Order*).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notification of Discontinuance of broadband Internet transmission service as a separate component of its broadband Internet access service was served this 26th day of June, 2017, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons:

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

The Honorable Nathan Deal
Office of the Governor
Georgia State Capitol
206 Washington Street
Suite 203, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334


